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South Africa, Republic of

Citrus

Semi Annual Report

1999

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Report Highlights:

Total citrus production rose about 11 percent to 1.24 million metric tons in FAS 1998/9(FAS 97) as a result of an increase in the total number of bearing trees. Total citrus exports reached about 625,000 MT, a 9 percent over 1997/98. Estimates for both the 1999/2000 crop and exports are showing increases over a year earlier.

Includes PSD changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: Yes
Semi-Annual Report

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Executive Summary

South African fresh citrus production for 1999/2000, is estimated at about 1.29 million MT., an increase of about 11 percent from the previous season. South Africa received sufficient rain during the 1998/99 season which contributed to the overall increase in production. Further increases in production are expected in the future is because of the expansion in the total number of bearing trees. Total area cultivated to the three citrus crops handled in this report, namely oranges, lemons and grapefruit, amounts to about 61,638 ha, with orange production occupying more than 87% of this area. .

Domestic consumption of fresh citrus increased to 5% percent in 1999/2000. Consumption of fresh oranges is the highest among the total citrus products and amount to 304,000mt. On the other hand, grapefruit and lemon fresh consumption amount to 11,000 mt. and 20,000 mt. respectively. Total citrus exports for 1999/2000 are estimated at 665,000 mt, an increase of 7% from a year earlier.

Situation and Outlook

Production: Total Citrus

	1996	1997	1998
My begins	02/97	02/98	02/99
		'000 Metric tons	
Production			
Total	1159	1239	1292
Total	574	625	665
Total	300	320	336
Total	288	296	294

The New Agricultural Products Marketing Act of 1996 phased out the old controlled marketing system and all the control boards. The Citrus industry now enjoys a free marketing system. Although the free marketing environment has opened some opportunities to both farmers and fruit dealers, it showed South African producers and exporters what the global market requires in terms of quality. Some second grade fruit made it to the export markets recently and this had a detrimental effect on total export income. Trade sources suggest that despite the large number of registered fruit exporters, only a handful will be able to export citrus products profitably. The free market is also expected to increase citrus imports, which carries a 5% import duty.

Domestic fresh citrus distribution is mainly through municipal markets, retail and chain stores, and specialized fruit and vegetable dealers. Hawkers and other informal trade outlets distribute considerable amounts of citrus. They serve as outlets in South Africa's rural areas and black townships which are now growing in status as marketing outlets for agricultural products.

Food Safety Issues

Citrus juice imports like other food imports need to conform with the basic conditions of the Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act (Act No. 54 of 1972) and the Trade Metrology Act (Act No. 77 of 1972). The Foodstuffs, Cosmetics and Disinfectants Act regulates quality of foodstuffs, thereby prescribing and indicating all requirements to be

met. It also outlines labeling requirements for juice and other products intended for the South African market.

The CY 1998's gross farm income of horticultural products increased by 10.3% mainly as a result of a substantial increase of 38% in the income from citrus and 21% from subtropical fruit. An increase in producer prices was the main factor in this increase.

Statistical Tables

Oranges

PSD Table						
Country:	South Africa, Republic of					
Commodity:	Oranges					
		1996		1997		1998
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		02/1997		02/1998		02/1999
Area Planted	47422	47422	48844	48844	53728	53728
Area Harvested	41300	41300	42261	42261	43539	43539
Bearing Trees	14725	14725	15067	15067	16122	16122
Non-Bearing Trees	1636	1636	1685	1685	1854	1854
TOTAL No. Of Trees	16361	16361	16752	16752	17976	17976
Production	970	895	961	961	974	1003
Imports	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTAL SUPPLY	971	896	962	962	975	1004
Exports	594	406	443	443	450	475
Fresh Dom. Consumption	157	270	291	291	295	304
Processing	220	220	228	228	230	225
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	971	896	962	962	975	1004

The 1998(MY 99) fresh orange production is expected to increase as a result of favourable weather conditions, increased area planted, as more trees coming into bearing. The increase in the area planted to oranges also contributed to the general increase in production.

Domestic consumption of fresh oranges is expected to reach about 304,000 mt this season, which is a 4.5% increase from the estimated 1997, MY 1998 consumption.

Export Trade Matrix			
Country:	South Africa	Units:	M/TONS
Commodity:	Oranges		
Time period:	Jan-Dec		
Exports for	1997		1998
U.S.	290	U.S.	181
Others		Others	
Belgium	179005	Belgium	114973
Saudi Arabia	74034	United Kingdom	84932
United Kingdom	31076	Saudi Arabia	60120
Russian Fed.	18348	Netherlands	34556
Japan	16157	Canada	21130
Hong Kong	14908	Netherlands	34556
Canada	11979	Canada	21130
Poland	8209	U.A. Emirates	20919
France	7983	France	19615
Netherlands	7337	Hong Kong	19142
Total for Others	369036		431073
Others not listed	36413		12057
Grand Total	405739		443311

Concentrated Orange juice

PSD Table						
Country:	South Africa			Mt. 65*	Degrees Brix	
Commodity:	Orange Juice					
		1996		1997		1998
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin						
Deliv. To Processors	220	220	228	228	230	225
Beginning Stocks	1210	1210	1300	4185	1280	3338
Production	12057	16940	12413	17556	15785	15750
Imports	189	0	200	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	13456	18150	13913	21741	17065	19088
Exports	1670	2465	2500	6403	4500	6338
Domestic Consumption	10486	11500	10133	12000	12500	12250
Ending Stocks	1300	4185	1280	3338	65	500
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	13456	18150	13913	21741	17065	19088

Grape Fruit

PSD Table						
Country:	S.A.					
Commodity:	Fresh Grapefruit					
		1996		1997		1998
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		02/1997		02/1998		02/1999
Area Planted	4223	4223	4350	4350	4360	4360
Area Harvested	3811	3811	3925	3925	3927	3927
Bearing Trees	15141	15141	15317	15317	15360	15360
Non-Bearing Trees	83	83	90	90	100	100
TOTAL No. Of Trees	15224	15224	15407	15407	15460	15460
Production	177	177	184	186	189	194
Imports	2	2	1	1	1	1
TOTAL SUPPLY	179	179	185	187	190	195
Exports	133	133	140	140	145	145
Fresh Dom. Consumption	8	11	10	9	10	11
Processing	38	35	35	38	35	39
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	179	179	185	187	190	195

Grapefruit production is forecast at 194,000 metric tons in MY1999/2000, a marginal increase from the previous estimate. Domestic consumption is expected to increase to over 20% this season.

Export Trade Matrix			
Country:	S.A.	Units:	Metric tons
Commodity:	Grape fruit		
Time period:	Jan-Dec		
Exports for	1997		1998
U.S.		U.S.	10
Others		Others	
Belgium	103578	Netherlands	44358
Japan	24603	Belgium	42979
Canada	2005	United kingdom	22342
		Japan	13378
		Russian Fed.	3531
		Italy	3437
		France	2872
		Germany	1729
		Spain	1278
		Hong Kong	947
Total for Others	130186		136851
Others not listed	3181		3610
Grand Total	133367		140471

Lemons

PSD Table						
Country:	South Africa, Republic of					
Commodity:	Fresh Lemons					
		1996		1997		1998
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		02/1997		02/1998		02/1999
Area Planted	3485	3485	3519	3519	3550	3550
Area Harvested	2929	2929	2958	2958	2958	2958
Bearing Trees	1153	1153	1164	1164	1164	1164
Non-Bearing Trees	167	167	169	169	200	200
TOTAL No. Of Trees	1320	1320	1333	1333	1364	1364
Production	74	87	88	92	95	95
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	74	87	88	92	95	95
Exports	44	35	46	42	45	45
Fresh Dom. Consumption	8	19	20	20	17	20
Processing	22	33	22	30	33	30
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	74	87	88	92	95	95

Production trend reflects a steady increase in the last three years. Total production of fresh lemons increased to about 95,000 mt this season. The rise is due to increased area planted as well as sufficient irrigation water.

Domestic consumption of fresh lemons for this season is estimated at 20,000mt. Generally, South Africa's fresh lemon crop is mainly exported and also processed other than be distributed for consumption purposes.

Lemons

Export Trade Matrix			
Country:	South Africa	Units:	M/TONS
Commodity:	Lemons		
Time period:	Jan-Dec		
Exports for	1997		1998
U.S.	0	U.S.	27
Others		Others	
Saudi Arabia	9528	Saudi Arabia	13825
Japan	6149	Hong Kong	5495
United Kingdom	4909	Emirates	5259
Belgium	4911	United Kingdom	4192
Hong Kong	1978	Netherlands	2709
Netherlands	1364	Singapore	1876
Croatia	1257	Japan	1735
		Belgium	1507
		Switzerland	759
		Kuwait	655
Total for Others	30096		38012
Others not listed	5070		3952
Grand Total	35166		41991